

REMARKS

Claims 41-51 currently appear in this application. The Office Action of June 21, 2004, has been carefully studied. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Claims 1-16 and 38-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cragun et al.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 1-40 have now been replaced by new claims 41-51. The invention as now claimed is a receiving terminal device comprising a receiving part that receives a personal information collection information setting range of personal information collection; and information collecting part that collects the personal information at a terminal which is limited to the personal information supplied by the user, based on the personal information collection information received; and an information sending part that sends collected personal information to a central system.

It is a characteristic of the present invention that the personal information collection information sets a range for collecting personal information. In other words, the items of the personal information to be collected is limited to a range the user specifies (or admits). Because of this construction, in the present invention only necessary information can be efficiently collected and used and, further, only user-admitted personal information can be sent from the receiving terminal device to the central system.

There is nothing in Cragun with respect to a personal information collection information in which a range of personal information collection is set. In Cragun, there is no provision that only user-admitted personal information can be sent from a receiving terminal device to a central system.

Claims 17-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cragun et al. in view of Hendricks.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. As noted above, Cragun et al. have nothing to do with restricting the personal information collection information. Hendricks et al. add nothing to Cragun et al. in this manner, as Hendricks et al. do not contemplate controlling the personal information that can be sent to a central system.

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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted
that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and
favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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